

## 11 November 2025



## Official Information Act request relating to security threats

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, which was received by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on 19 October 2025.

You requested information relating to threats against staff and money spent on counselling over the past three years.

On 7 November 2025 you were informed that the time limit for partially transferring your request, was extended because of the consultation needed to make a decision on questions [1] and [3]. As these questions relate to 'charges' they were partially transferred to Police, and Police will respond to you directly.

I have responded to each of your questions in turn.

Please confirm the following information-

- 1- how many bomb threats have been made against staff from your organisation in the past three years by year?
- how many people were charged with making said threat?
- how many threats were made anonymously?
- how many times were premises locked down due to said threats?
- how many threats came true?

In 2024 there was one cyber threat which mentioned the use of explosives. The incident was reported to Police and no further action was required by DPMC. Information relating to whether anyone was charged is not held by DPMC therefore this part of your request has been partially transferred to Police.

In relation to your last three bullet points the answer is zero.

- 2- how many threats to kill have been made against staff from your organisation in the past three years by year?
- how many people were charged with making said threat?
- how many threats were made anonymously?
- how many times were premises locked down due to said threats?
- how many threats came true?

There have been no threats to kill made against staff in the past three years at DPMC.

- 3. how many other threats (that qualified as threats to the life or physical safety of staff) were made against staff from your organisation in the past three years by year?
- how many people were charged with making said threat?
- how many threats were made anonymously?

- how many times were premises locked down due to said threats?
- how many threats came true?

There were two incidents in 2024 where threats to safety of a DPMC staff member were identified. The incidents were reported to Police and no further action was required by DPMC. Information relating to whether anyone was charged is not held by DPMC therefore this part of your request has been partially transferred to Police.

In relation to your last three bullet points the answer is zero.

- 4. how much money is being spent on staff counselling over the same period by year
- one-to-one
- -group sessions

Please divide by managers, non-managerial staff, (male, female, other gender).

5. For 4., how many sessions for each group by one-to-one and group over the same period by year were conducted?

We have interpreted questions [4] and [5] to relate to staff who have been involved in the events raised in questions [1] to [3] and sought counselling after the fact. The Employee Assistance Program, known as EAP services, are available to all staff, however the detail sought is not broken down on a case-by-case basis. Therefore, these parts of your request are refused under section 18(g) of the Act, as it is not held, and I have no grounds for believing that the information is either held by another department or Minister of the Crown or organisation.

If you are after a general breakdown of workplace counselling costs for DPMC staff for the past three years, please go to question 83 of our Annual Review 2023/24, which is available here: <u>DPMC Annual Review 2023/24</u>.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This response will be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

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Alan Cassidy

Deputy Chief Executive, Corporate and Chief People Officer

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